Year	*Value of gold seized (Rs. in crores)*	*Quantity of gold (Metric Tonnes)*
1990	192.96	5.72
1991	187.00	4.93

The number of cases booked and the number of persons who have been prosecuted/convicted/acquitted under the provisions of the Customs Act, 1962 during the last 2 years and the number of prosecutions pending at the end of 1991 are given below. However, the figures in respect of gold cases alone are not maintained separately.

Yes	*No. of. cases booked*	*No. of. persons prosecuted*	*No. of. persons convicted*	*No. of. persons acquitted*	*No. of. prosecutions pending*
1990	73279	2268	555	141	-
1991*	59224	1640	585	146	6237

*Figures are provisional.

(e) and (f). Gold has been traditionally sensitive to smuggling into the country due to various factors such as gap between domestic demand and supply and because of the difference between low international prices and higher domestic prices. Smuggling is a clandestine activity and it is not possible to say whether it has increased/ decreased due to repeal of the Gold Control Act or otherwise. The provisions of the repealed Gold control Act were regulating only the domestic gold trade.

Seizure of Gold at I.G.I. Airport, Delhi

1803. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL:
SHRI RAM BADAN:
KUMARI UMABHARTI:
SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and value of gold seized by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence and other enforcement agencies during January, 1992 in Delhi;

(b) whether the DRI officials seized 58 kg. of gold worth about rupees 30 crore kept in a consignment at the Indira Gandhi International Airport, Delhi on January 25, 1992;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any investigation in the matter has been made;

(e) if so, the details and the outcome thereof;

(f) the number of such cases which came to light where goods were imported in the name of diplomats during the last three years; and

(g) the action taken against the guilty persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) 87.179 kgs. of gold valued at Rs 4.22 crores approximately has been seized by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence and other enforcement agencies during January, 1991 in Delhi.

(b) to (e). 500 pieces of gold bearing markings indicating their foreign origin collectively weighing 58.325 kgs. and valued at Rs. 2.81 crores approximately were seized by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence on 25/01/1992 from a consignment which had arrived at Indira Gandhi International Airport, Delhi, in the name of a foreign embassy official. The gold had been concealed in a washing machine and cooking range imported alongwith other house hold goods. Investigations have revealed that the forein embassy official was not involved. Two persons Rajkumar Gupta and Trilochan Singh, both of Delhi, who were found to be involved have been arrested on 25/01/1992 and have also been detained under the provisions of the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Preservation of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974 with effect from 13/02/1992.

(f) and (g). Directorate of Revenue Intelligence has reported one other instance during the last 3 years in which 3699 kgs. of silver valued at Rs. 2,58,93,000/- approximately were seized in 1989 from a consignment imported in the name of a foreign embassy. The embassy had denied having imported the consignment and diswned it. Since the goods were unclaimed, no person was arrested.

Visit of delegation to Russia

1804. *SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL:*
SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an official delegation visited Russia recently to hold talks with individual Republics in the Commonwealth on various issues relating to trade and commerce and rupee-rouble problems etc.; and

(b) if so, the outcome of the talks held with each of the Republics?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). An official level delegation led by the Foreign Secretary had visited Moscow in January, 1992. The delegation had discussions with the Russian Government on different bilateral issued including economic co-operation and trade relations. As a follow-up to this visit, a Russian delegation had visited India in the third week of February, 1992. During this visit an Agreement on Trade and Economic Cooperation was initialed and is expected to be signed in there near future. A bilateral Trade Protocol for 1992 was also concluded during this visit. Separately, Trade Agreements with Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan have also been concluded. Discussions have also been held with the Republics of Ukraine, Belarus and Azerbaijan.

World Bank and IMF Lending Schedules

1805. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the lending schedule for India, evolved at the last round of the World Bank and I.M.F. meets;

(b) the under askings sought from India during the meetings with regard to the various steps taken and being taken to rejuvenate India's economy; and

(c) the clarification's offered by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The lending schedule for India is not discussed at the Annual World Bank and I.M.F. meetings.